

**Amendment to the Claims:**

The following Listing of the Claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.

**Listing of the Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of determining the concentration of an analyte in a sample comprising the steps of:

- a) contacting the sample with ~~an~~ a known amount of a receptor which binds specifically to the analyte to form an analyte/receptor complex, ~~and which wherein the known amount of receptor~~ is in excess of that an amount of receptor required to bind all analyte in the sample,
- b) isolating on a solid phase a fraction of receptor contacted with the analyte, the resulting isolated fraction of receptor contacted with analyte including the analyte/receptor complex and unreacted receptor, ~~such that~~ and the ratio between receptor in said isolated fraction ~~of receptor~~ and the known amount of receptor contacted with the sample is being in a range of from about 1:2 to about 1:1000,
- c) labeling the analyte/receptor complex in said isolated fraction and detecting the amount of labeled analyte/receptor complex in said isolated fraction; and
- d) from the detected amount of labeled analyte/receptor complex, determining the concentration of analyte in the sample.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1 in which the sample has a concentration of greater than 1 nmole/litre.

Claim 3 (Original): The method according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which the sample is undiluted.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein isolating said fraction of receptor contacted with the sample on the solid phase comprises providing a solid phase having binding sites incorporated thereon for the receptor, and after contacting the sample, or an aliquot thereof, with a liquid phase containing the receptor, binding said fraction of receptor to the solid phase.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 4, wherein all of the receptor contacted with the sample has reactivity towards said binding sites on the solid phase, and receptor-binding capacity of the solid phase is less than solid-phase binding capacity of receptor contacted with the sample.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 4, wherein only the ratio between the total binding capacity of receptor and binding capacity of receptor towards said binding sites on the solid phase is in the range of from about 2:1 to 1000:1.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein isolating said fraction of receptor on the solid phase comprises contacting the resulting receptor contacted with analyte with the sample with receptor, ~~wherein a minor fraction of said receptor is immobilized to said solid phase and the remaining amount of receptor being in a liquid phase.~~

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the receptor comprises a first part that binds specifically to the analyte, and a second part that binds to the solid phase.

Claim 9 (Original): The method according to claim 8, wherein the solid phase binding part of the receptor comprises one member of a specific binding pair, and the other member of the binding pair is immobilized to the solid phase.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein in step c) the analyte/receptor complex is detected by a labeled detection reagent which binds specifically to the analyte.

Claim 11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein said solid phase binding sites for the receptor are immobilized in a reaction zone of a flow matrix.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the receptor is an antibody or immunoreactive fragment thereof.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 8 10, wherein the detection reagent is an antibody or immunoreactive fragment thereof.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 8 10, wherein the detection reagent is labelled by a fluorophore or chromophore.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the specific binding pair is biotin-avidin or biotin-streptavidin.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the sample is an undiluted serum sample.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the sample is an undiluted whole blood sample.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A test kit for determining an analyte in a sample, comprising a receptor reagent having a first part which binds specifically to the analyte, and a solid phase member having immobilized thereon a ligand which binds specifically to a second part of the receptor reagent, wherein receptor-binding capacity of said ligand immobilized on the solid phase member is less than ligand-binding capacity of said receptor reagent, and wherein the ratio between receptor-binding capacity of ligand immobilized on the solid phase and ligand-binding capacity of the analyte-specific receptor reagent is in ~~the~~ a range of from about 1:2 to about 1:1000.

Claim 20 (Cancelled).

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The test kit according to claim 19, further comprising a lateral flow membrane strip having said receptor-binding ligand immobilized in or on a reaction zone of the membrane and having said analyte-binding receptor reagent dissolvably pre-deposited in or on the membrane upstream of the reaction zone.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A test kit for determining an analyte in a sample, comprising a receptor reagent having a first part which binds specifically to the analyte, wherein only a fraction of receptor reagent has a second part which binds to a specific ligand, and a solid phase member having said specific ligand immobilized thereon, such that the ratio between ligand-binding analyte-specific receptor reagent and analyte-specific receptor reagent is in a range of from about 1:2 to about 1:1000.

Claim 23 (Cancelled).

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The test kit according to claim 22, further comprising a lateral flow membrane strip having said receptor-binding ligand immobilized in or on a reaction zone of the membrane and having said analyte-binding receptor reagent dissolvably pre-deposited in or on the membrane upstream of the reaction zone.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A test kit for determining an analyte in a sample, comprising a first amount of an analyte-binding receptor reagent, and a solid phase member having immobilized thereon a second amount of said analyte-binding receptor reagent, wherein the first amount of analyte-binding receptor reagent is not immobilized on the solid phase member, and wherein the ratio between said second amount of analyte-binding receptor

reagent immobilized to the solid phase, and said first and second amounts of analyte-binding receptor reagent together is in a range of from about 1:2 to about 1:1000.

Claim 26 (Cancelled).

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The test kit according to claim 25, comprising a lateral flow membrane strip having a the second amount of analyte-binding receptor reagent immobilized in or on a reaction zone of the membrane and having said first amount of analyte-binding receptor reagent dissolvably pre-deposited in or on the membrane upstream of the reaction zone.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The test kit according to claim 25, comprising a solid phase well having said second amount of analyte binding receptor reagent immobilized therein and having said first amount of analyte-binding receptor reagent dissolvably pre-deposited in the well or in close contact with the well.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the ratio between receptor in said isolated fraction ~~of analyte-binding receptor~~ and ~~analyte-binding the~~ known amount of receptor contacted with the sample is in ~~the~~ a range of from about 1:5 to 1:100.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 9, wherein the ratio between receptor in said isolated fraction ~~of analyte-binding receptor~~ and ~~analyte-binding the~~ known amount of receptor contacted with the sample is no more than about 1:20.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 12, wherein said flow matrix is a lateral flow matrix.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 31, wherein said lateral flow matrix is a membrane strip.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The test kit according to claim 19, wherein the ratio between receptor-binding capacity of ligand immobilized on the solid phase and ligand-binding capacity of the analyte-specific receptor reagent is in a range of from about 1:5 to 1:100.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The test kit according to claim 19, wherein the ratio between receptor-binding capacity of ligand immobilized on the solid phase and ligand-binding capacity of the analyte-specific receptor reagent is no more than about 1:20.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): The test kit according to claim 22, wherein the ratio between ligand-binding analyte-specific receptor reagent and analyte-specific receptor reagent is in a range of from about 1:5 to 1:100.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): The test kit according to claim 22, wherein the ratio between ligand-binding analyte-specific receptor reagent and analyte-specific receptor reagent is no more than about 1:20.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): The test kit according to claim 25, wherein the ratio between said second amount of analyte-binding receptor ~~substance~~ reagent immobilized to the solid phase, and total analyte-binding receptor reagent in said kit is in a range of from about 1:5 to 1:100.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): The test kit according to claim 25, wherein the ratio between said second amount of analyte-binding receptor ~~substance~~ reagent immobilized to the solid phase, and total analyte-binding receptor reagent in said test kit is no more than about 1:20.

Claim 39 (New): The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of analyte in the sample is determined quantitatively or semi-quantitatively.

Claim 40 (New): The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of analyte in the sample is determined qualitatively.

Claim 41 (New): The test kit according to claim 19, wherein the test kit is adapted to quantitatively or semi-quantitatively determine a concentration of an analyte in a sample.

Claim 42 (New): The test kit according to claim 19, wherein the test kit is adapted to qualitatively determine a concentration of an analyte in a sample.

Claim 43 (New): The test kit according to claim 22, wherein the test kit is adapted to quantitatively or semi-quantitatively determine a concentration of an analyte in a sample.



Claim 44 (New): The test kit according to claim 22, wherein the test kit is adapted to qualitatively determine a concentration of an analyte in a sample.

Claim 45 (New): The test kit according to claim 25, wherein the test kit is adapted to quantitatively or semi-quantitatively determine a concentration of an analyte in a sample.

Claim 46 (New): The test kit according to claim 25, wherein the test kit is adapted to qualitatively determine a concentration of an analyte in a sample.